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JUN 26 2001

Patent Case No. IN09640

TECH CENTER 1600/2900



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Carlos O. Stalgis, et al.

For: RIBAVIRIN-PEGYLATED INTERFERON
ALFA INDUCTION HCV COMBINATION
THERAPY

Serial No.: 09/464,426

Filed: 12/16/99

Examiner: Shanon A. Foley

Group Art Unit: 1648

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Entered in part

AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Official Action dated January 18, 2001 rejecting all the claims in this application.

Applicants are amending this Application and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the grounds of rejection.

A Petition and Fee for a Two Month Extension of Time, and a Fee Transmittal Sheet (in duplicate) accompany this Amendment.

Please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Below the title on page 1, add:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION:

This application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/112,773, filed December 18, 1998.